

report

to the community



Linwood School

2016-2017



"On strong team, we all pull together"

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The Early Years (K-5) provides a nurturing environment where children are encouraged to investigate, create and discover. Children develop their competencies in language and literacy skills, thinking and problem-solving skills, social and emotional development, independence, creativity and knowledge in preparation for becoming responsible citizens. Instruction in the following curricula: Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education/Health and the Arts is focused on meeting the unique needs of Early Years students. Instruction focuses on the integration of subject matter and hands-on activity-based approaches to learning.

Last Year's School Accomplishments (2015-2016)

Students demonstrated improvement in writing non-fiction text across curricula.

- ✓ Students had daily opportunities to read and write for a variety of audiences and purposes across curricula
- ✓ Students had the opportunity to see the impact of their writing beyond the walls of the school
- ✓ Students communicate their thoughts and ideas with growing confidence

Students demonstrated increased capacity to use higher order thinking skills when solving mathematical problems.

- ✓ Students have shown an increased ability to solve "open" problems
- ✓ Students can articulate their problem solving strategies using models, pictures/diagrams, and/or vocabulary
- ✓ Students demonstrated an increased repertoire of problem solving strategies

Students have continued to explore social justice issues and learned about actions they can take as active citizens.

- ✓ Students were involved in multiple acts of philanthropy in both the local and larger community
- ✓ Students participated in a variety of environmental stewardship initiatives
- ✓ All Grades 4 & 5 students learned about their role as active democratic citizens through participation in the Student Vote program

Our Mission Statement

Linwood School endeavors to provide a safe and caring environment in which students become accountable, life-long learners who demonstrate respect and co-operation and who take responsibility for their own behavior and learning.

School Profile

Number of teachers: 12
Number of students: 180
Grade levels: K-5

School Highlights

These include:

- Restitution
- Roots of Empathy
- WITS Bully-Proofing Program
- Daily 5 Literacy Program
- CAFÉ Reading Menu
- Struggling Literacy Learners Initiative
- Reading Recovery
- Juice and Cookies with the Principal
- The Integrated Arts
- Professional Learning Community
- Butterfly Garden
- Student Leadership
- Giving Tree Group
- Resource
- Guidance

A Quick Snapshot of the Classroom

Mathematics: Students work on four areas (strands) in mathematics (number, shape and space, patterns and relations, and statistics and probability). Students learn to problem solve, to use mental math strategies, and to communicate their mathematical thinking using a variety of forms.

English: The focus of instruction during English Language Arts is to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing and representing. Students experience a variety of texts and forms through these six language arts.

Science: Students learn to communicate their understanding of concepts through a variety of learning experiences. Students participate in scientific inquiry and develop design process skills.

Arts: Arts education is delivered using many art forms including dance, drama, music, and the visual arts. Classroom based instruction in the arts is enhanced by The Integrated Arts, a program where professional artists work with teachers to provide unique arts experiences to all students. We offer a variety of arts-centered extra-curricular activities.

Extra-curricular Activities

- Choir
- Art Club
- Team Handball
- Floor Hockey
- Dance Club
- Chess Club
- AAA Club
- Run Club
- Cross Country

Planning & Goal Setting

School goals are created using the Divisional Strategic Plan as the guideline (www.sjsd.net/planning). The goal setting process begins in early Spring and includes input from students, teachers, parents and the community. Goals are developed around the needs and direction of the various departments with student progress and achievement and our mission and vision statement as our focus.

This Year's School Goals and Priorities (2016-2017)

1. By June 2017, 100% of students will benefit from balanced literacy instruction to show improvement in the areas of comprehension, communication, and critical thinking.

- Students will show improved communication skills as evidenced by writing samples throughout the year
- Students will show improved comprehension and critical thinking skills as evidenced by a variety of assessment tasks
- Students will be able to articulate their metacognitive skills, they will identify what good readers/writers do and apply this to their own reading/writing

2. By June 2017, 100% of students will show improvement in their ability to persevere in problem solving and show an increased appreciation for the role making mistakes plays in learning.

- Students will show increased capacity to persevere in exploring and reasoning through a variety of closed and open problem solving tasks
- Students will recognize high-quality work/effective problem solving strategies and work towards this goal
- Students will demonstrate learning behaviours that show an increased appreciation for making mistakes

3. By June 2017, 100% of students will demonstrate increased positive mental health practices by participating in school wide and classroom based safe and caring school initiatives.

- Students will participate in strategic initiatives designed to improve their ability to: identify their own emotions, communicate care and concern for others, initiate and sustain positive relationships, set and pursue personal goals, recognize and value the experience of joy, make decisions that demonstrate respect for self and others